



EMERGENCY ORDER

IN AND FOR THE CITY OF SEQUIM, WASHINGTON

No. 2020-33

Allowing Guy Cole Event Center to be used for limited governmental business and/or emergency-related activities while it is unavailable for public rental.

Policy/Budget ☒ (Council)

City Clerk use only: Presented to Council _____

Administrative (City Manager) ☐

On March 16, 2020, at a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Sequim, the City Council issued a Proclamation of Civil Emergency due to the novel corona virus (COVID-19) outbreak that was identified as a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020.

The Proclamation of Civil Emergency was issued pursuant to Sequim Municipal Code 2.60, RCW 35A.38.010, and RCW 38.52.070(2) based on the public health threat posed by COVID-19, and is consistent with concurrent emergency declarations issued by the President of the United States and the Governor of the State of Washington.

Beginning on March 23, 2020, with Governor Inslee's issuance of Proclamation 20-25 "Stay Home Stay Healthy", the State and local governments began to issue orders designed to stop the spread of the virus. The orders established shelter-in-place and social distancing guidelines, described essential activities, and closed businesses and schools. Over the ensuing weeks, new or revised emergency proclamations and orders have been issued by the State and local governments, including the City of Sequim, allowing phased reopening of some businesses and facilities, and establishing programs to ameliorate the impact of the pandemic on the public.

Responding early to the coronavirus emergency, the City ceased accepting facility rental applications on March 11, 2020 and later cancelled existing events to comply with the Governor's "Stay Home Stay Healthy" Proclamations and extensions. The City intends to forego renting its facilities to the public until such time as Clallam County or the State as a whole are in Phase 3 of the Governor's Safe Start reopening plan.

In the weeks since the City ceased renting the Guy Cole Event Center, it has become clear that a venue of that size and type is occasionally necessary for conducting activities related to emergency response or ordinary government functions that have been disrupted due to responding to the pandemic. For example, a larger facility is now required to conduct public business due to the need to physically distance participants.

In Emergency Order 2020-25, the City allowed the Guy Cole Event Center to be used for training dental professionals on the proper use of Personal Protective Equipment. The Event Center is also the site of the Emergency Coordination Center when it is activated. Recently the City has been approached by the federal government looking for a location to conduct training for persons performing U.S. Census



outreach. The City has also been researching whether the facility might be an appropriate site for a temporary child care center for essential workers.

This order allows City facility rental staff to make a case-by-case determination of whether the Guy Cole Event Center can be made available to applicants in limited circumstances when the activity is government business and/or deemed necessary to respond to the COVID-19 emergency. This order is not intended to circumvent any State or federal mandate against gatherings. Further, the use of the Event Center would be subject to conditions that differ from ordinary rental conditions in order to maintain proper sanitation of the facility.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED THAT:

Section 1. Allowing Limited Use of Guy Cole Event Center. City staff are authorized to allow use of the Guy Cole Event Center on a case-by-case basis when the activity is deemed to be essential for a functioning government or assists in the community response to the coronavirus pandemic. The use may be paid or unpaid, at the City's discretion, in accordance with City policy. All gatherings must comply with physical/social distancing and facial covering mandates in place at the time applicant occupies the Guy Cole Event Center. The applicant is responsible for ensuring that all applicable mandates are met and that all individuals adhere to such mandates. The City may impose additional restrictions and conditions on the use that are not normally imposed on facility renters, consistent with the current orders, proclamations, and health and safety guidelines in place at the time of use.

Section 2. Presentation, Ratification, Termination. Emergency Orders issued under the March 16, 2020 Proclamation of Civil Emergency will be filed with the Legal Department and presented by the City Clerk as soon as practicable to the City Council for ratification and confirmation, modification, or rejection, if applicable.

Rejected orders will be void after the Council vote rejecting them.

Until such time as Council acts, Emergency Orders will be considered in full force and effect.

Section 3. Duration. Unless modified, extended, or terminated by the Sequim City Council or Sequim City Manager as applicable, this Emergency Order is effective immediately and remains in effect until all applicable orders and proclamations have been lifted.

SIGNED this 17th day of August, 2020, at 10:34 hours.

CITY OF SEQUIM

Charles P. Bush

Charles P. Bush, City Manager

Approved as to form:

Kristina Nelson-Gross

Kristina Nelson-Gross, City Attorney

Attest:

Sara McMillon

Sara McMillon, City Clerk